

# ENGAGING LATINO YOUTH IN PREVENTION

A guide developed by youth leaders and adult coalition members to provide information on how to empower and involve young people in the prevention movement of making communities safe, healthy, and drug free.

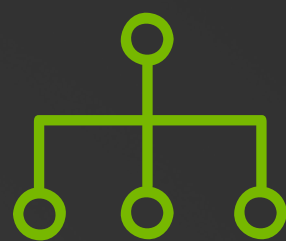
## MONITORING THE DATA



Hispanic 8th graders tend to report the highest rates of use out of the three major racial/ethnic groups on nearly all classes of drugs (Monitoring the Future study, 2015).



Drug abuse concerns facing Hispanics are complicated by demographic trends, low economic status, lack of access to health care and environmental risk factors (National Hispanic Science Network, 2012).



Studies suggest strengthening new and existing networks and partnerships with smaller Latino groups to provide them resources they may not have had otherwise.

## BY EFFECTIVE MEANS NECESSARY

With high use rates and a steady increase in population, it is critical to include Latino youth in coalition efforts to reduce substance abuse among young people. Here are a few strategies to effectively and appropriately engage Latino youth in coalitions.



### Connect with Family

In Latino culture, family is a high priority. Meet with families over coffee or dinner to discuss their child's involvement in prevention.



### Meeting Location

Consider having your next coalition meeting or community-wide event in another part of town. Making your coalition accessible could mean the difference in your diversity efforts.



### Cultural Humility

Embrace cultural differences and consider how they might add to the unique qualities of the coalition. Be authentic in your approach to creating an inclusive and nonjudgmental environment within your coalition.



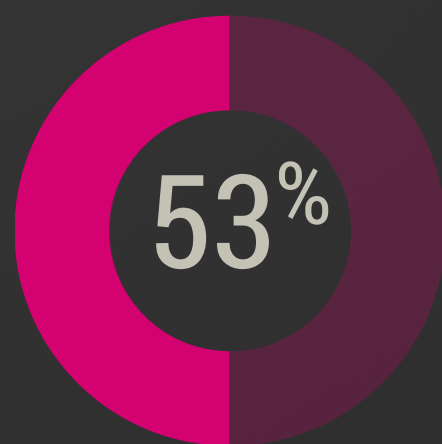
### Language

In anything, communication is key. Learn how your coalition can bridge possible language barriers. Where your language is spoken, is where you'll probably feel the most comfortable.



### Technology

Think of those technologies that will assist in your efforts to engage more Latino youth and their families. (i.e. Google Translate, Skype, etc.)



US Census projections indicate that Hispanics will account for over half of the country's total population growth by 2020 and nearly 85% by 2060